3
FREE COLLARS KINGDOM
フリーカラーズキングダム
TAKUYA FUJIMA

FREE COLLARS KINGDOM

フリーカラーズキングダム

3

TAKUYA FUJIMA

TRANSLATED AND ADAPTED BY
William Flanagan

LETTERED BY
North Market Street Graphics

BALLANTINE BOOKS • NEW YORK

Contents

Author's Note v

Honorifics Explained vii

Cultural Notes ix

Free Collars Kingdom, Volume 3 1

Bonus Minimanga:
Free Collars Love Theater 197

Translation Notes 201

Free Collars Kingdom volume 3 is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

A Del Rey Trade Paperback Original

Free Collars Kingdom volume 3 copyright © 2004 by Takuya Fujima
English translation copyright © 2007 by Takuya Fujima

All rights reserved.

Published in the United States by Del Rey Books,
an imprint of The Random House Publishing Group,
a division of Random House, Inc., New York.

Del Rey is a registered trademark and the Del Rey colophon is a trademark of Random House, Inc.

Publication rights arranged through Kodansha Ltd.

First published in Japan in 2004 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

ISBN 978-0-345-49267-8

Printed in the United States of America

www.delreymanga.com

9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Translator/adapter: William Flanagan
Lettering: North Market Street Graphics

AUTHOR'S NOTE

The cover of this volume features Minky and Siam. These two don't appear together often in the book, but when I planned the drawing, I couldn't help but think that they make a good combo. So I went ahead and drew it. Well, this is the final volume. Send along your opinions if you want.

Takuya Fujima

HONORIFICS EXPLAINED

Throughout the Del Rey Manga books, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: "Asuna-san"), is used as a title at the end of one's name, or appears in place of the name itself (example: "Negi-sensei," or simply "Sensei!").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many English translations leave out these important honorifics and therefore distort the feel of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy at Del Rey not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in Del Rey Manga.

-san: This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., or Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.

-sama: This is one level higher than "-san" and is used to confer great respect.

-dono: This comes from the word "tono," which means "lord." It is an even higher level than "-sama" and confers utmost respect.

CULTURAL NOTES

Nyan:
The same way cats say *meow* in English-speaking countries, they say *nyan* in Japan. Through the course of this book, the reader may see quite a few references to *nyan* made in the form of puns or other cat allusions.

Nyan-Man:
The place where our feline heroes live is called Nyan-Nyans Mansion. It is a high-rise apartment building, and its name is shortened, in typical Japanese style, to Nyan-Man.

Ikebukuro:
Tokyo has quite a few city centers, the most popular of which are the Ginza for those with expensive tastes, Shibuya for young people, and Shinjuku for more average folks. Ikebukuro has all of the same attractions as the other city centers, such as stores, restaurants, theaters, cinemas, and other forms of entertainment, but recently it has become a haven for female *otaku*. It also has a partially deserved reputation as a destination for gangs of street punks.

-kun: This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men among friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.

-chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

Bozu: This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English terms "kid" and "squirt."

Sempai/ Senpai: This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as "sempai." It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

Kohai: This is the opposite of "sempai" and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei: Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

[blank]: This is usually forgotten in these lists, but it is perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as *yobisute*, it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be very insulting.

フリーカラーズキングダム

FREE COLLARS KINGDOM 3

Takuya Fujima

Cat Tale 13 Cyan's Rage

CONTENTS

Cat Tale 13
Cyan's Rage
003

Cat Tale 14
BehaviorXRehabilitation
035

Cat Tale 15
The Place One Must Be
067

Cat Tale 16
Siam's Collar
099

Cat Tale 17
The Return of the Queen
131

Cat Tale 18 (Final Chapter)
A Stray Cat's Heaven
165

Free Collars Love Theater
197

Nyan-Nyans Mansion, aka Nyan-Man!
Our hideout is a place where all stray cats want to be...
...are preparing for the all-out war to start.
...we and the West Ikebukuro Siam Army...
And as part of the territorial battles of East Ikebukuro...
Nooo!!
You mean I lost again?!
Whoa!!
JRAN
JRAN
JRAN
At least we should be, you guys!!!!
KACHAK
GACHIK
PLASHA
PLASHA
PLASHA
SQUEEK
SQUEEK

Not *for me*! You're a man, what are you doing laundry for?
I washed it for you!
ZWIK
Oh, is it?
Isn't that my bikini?
? Wait! That's—
Beautiful tail! Call it a beautiful tail!
You're just a weirdo! Starting with that bizarre tail of yours!
...is a mix of cat and raccoon. At least some explain his breed that way.
Rat-kun's Short Memo
Raccoon
Cat
Maine Coon Cat
According to my reading materials, Coon's the Maine coon cat breed...
He doesn't have much choice.

I want to become as strong as the Wild Cat!!!
Right!! It's time for special training! Let's work out!

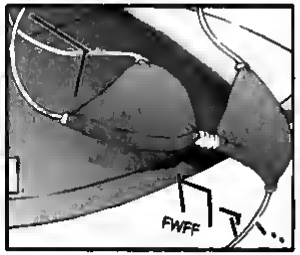
Now it's good location and history make it Ikebukuro's most sought-after place to live.
And the center of his reign was right here, Nyan-Nyans Mansion.

Once he used his fearsome strength to rule over Ikebukuro and the lands north, south, east, and west.
Wild Cat, the cat of ancient times that all stray cats aspire to be.

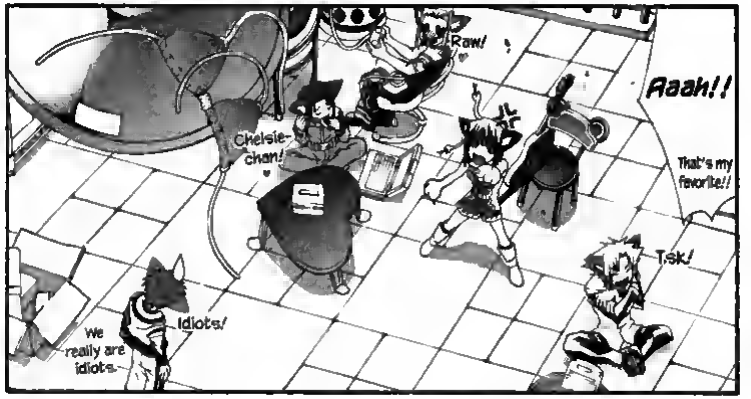
...has set her sights on making Nyan-Man a part of her territory.
Even Siam, the ruler of West Ikebukuro and our greatest enemy...

I still can't figure out how these guys got to be such good fighters.
Ah ha ha ha ha! A raccoon, and so he puts clothes out on the rack!

RACC
RACC
A rac... coon?!
RACC
RACC


FWFF

If you wanted it back, you could just ask!
WHOOSH


Raw!
Aaah!!
Chelsie-chan!
That's my favorite!!
Tsk!
Idiots!
We really are idiots.

It looks like we're being challenged for our East Ikebukuro territory by Siam!
W-We've got trouble!
All I ask is that you don't expose this child to danger...
I-If you want our home, it's yours! So please...
Kyaa-aaa!!!

When hearing the name of Wild Cat, even these guys get serious.
You big bunch of...
Ha ha ha ha! Young One! I'm sure even Wild Cat had a weakness where females were concerned!
HA
U... Uwaaaaa?!!
PWAFT
"Pwaft"...?
BEEP
!!

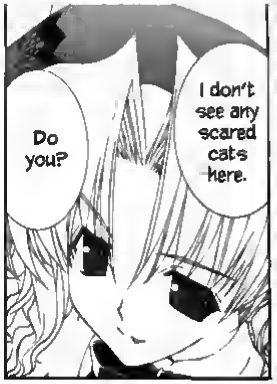
KRK
KEE
EE
EEEE
Stop right there!!
?!!
I see. So it is...
I-It's you guys...
Y-You people are the worst! Going after a tiny child!

You're in the way!!
I'm afraid we can't accommodate you on that. We can't allow useless types like you to continue on in our territory.
We're the Siam Army Pest Exterminators, and we're here to clean you out!!
No...!!
Begin the operation!
SST

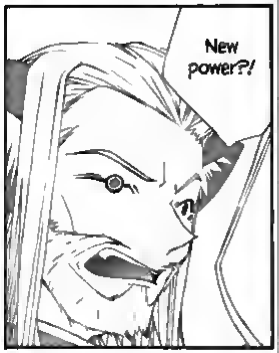
It isn't an advantage for them if they never hit us!
VWASH
The guy's got monster power!
?!!
WHOOM

But this does hit!
VATCH

An attack to the top of my head. Heh heh Heh...
Yeah, there it was.
Heh heh! There it is.
PTUI


I don't see any scared cats here.
Do you?

He's right! He's right!
Oh yeah! We have our new powers from Chami!
TMP


New power?!

...The Free Collars!!
The cat collective whose stronghold is Nyan-Man in East Ikebukuro.

Happy Trick?

There's... something weird about these guys!
Th-Their condition...
...it's as if they've been medicated with Happy Trick!

Yeah, it's one way to give a cat a power boost!
It's something like a drug?

Yes.
When we cats are introduced to silvervine or other products that feature Nepetalactone...
...they trip just as if they were humans tripping on illicit drugs.

This Happy Trick seems to be a designer drug oriented toward battle.
It allows the user to have increased strength and block out pain...
... but...

Well, this is proof they're taking it.

...unlike silvervine, those who are medicated with this drug could become addicted, so most cats won't touch it.

So in their battle to take East Ikebukuro into their territory, they're willing to put their own people in danger...?!

Oh, I remember hearing how you all love humans!
AH!

Whoa! Some beautiful human women! ♡
A-At a time like this...?!

Scottie!!

Ey-aaahh!!
I-I can't see!!
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP

Tsk!
GANCH
Leave the humans out of it! They've got nothing to do with this, right?!!

SHK
SHK
SHK
Leggo of me, you brat!
GWOOH

What do you see in them?!!
WHOOSH
WHOOSH
Humans abandon their pets when they become slightly inconvenient.
WHOOSH

I can't get to her in time!!
N-No! Stop it!

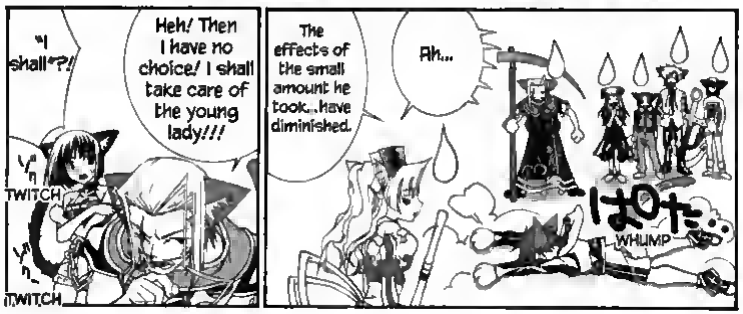
Ultimate Cat Technique! Misty Feather!!
Enemies of the Siam Army!!
The humans are our enemy!
TMP

Eh heh heh heh heh!
They're not going to be easy to beat...
Eh heh heh heh...
Okay then, we're gonna take off before the effects wear off!
Cat-kun!

It might have been just a little but...
Just then when he bit the enemy...
He got Happy Trick in his system?!!
I-I don't think he does.
Cyan, do you think this is Funny?

Uwaaaa!!
Hyaaah!!
GRASSSH
Uwaaaah!
GRAAH
He's stronger than my men...
Wh-What's with that cat?!

Ah ha ha ha! Go, Young One! Get them!!!
Ha...Ha ha ha!


"I shall"?!
Heh! Then I have no choice! I shall take care of the young lady!!!
TWITCH
TWITCH
The effects of the small amount he took...have diminished.
Ah...
はひた..
WHUMP

?! I've heard that name!
Maid Chami is perfect for the job!
Shall I sweep you to the next life?
She's a maid with the power to take out hundreds of enemies in a single moment!
Thank you! Oh, thank you!
Old lechers should stay out of this!!
WHARP
Her victims are killed with such speed that it takes a while for them to realize that they're already dead.
Assassin Chami of the Siam Army...
Siam!
Just as she said, she's serious now.

Let me take her!
W-Wait a second, old man! She's mine!
And I won't let that pass!!
She hurt the humans!
If you wish, you may all try to attack me at once.
I don't care who stands against me.
.....
This is the first time I've ever seen such a scary face on Cat-kun!
Is that rage?

KRANCH
GRATCH
...give them their edge over normal knives!
KATCH
KATCH
The holes...
?!
Order now, and we'll send the fruit knife for free!
SHUMM
You can cut and cut, and it never seems to go dull!
Don't forget our stainless steel knife set!
SHUUM
KANK

DMP
And it's good training for one's gripping power!
TSST
TSST
Aah! It's gotten in my eyes!!
SHHT
SHHT
The ultimate antimicrobial air freshener, Fabreeze!
First, I'll use this!
TSST
TSST
TSST
The #1 item for garden work!
SHAKING
Next we have the Magic Extended Garden Shears!
See how even tall places are no problem?!
CHANG
CHANG
CHANG
CHANG
BAKANG

Ultimate Cat Attack!! Sweeping Slayer!!!

Ahh!!

So it's finally time...
It's useless. I've seen through all of your attacks.

KYUUN
WHOO

Gyaah!!
ZUWAKK
That's not all! You get a free broom, too!

WHOOSH

VVT
VVT
Go! Round Ball!!

GYUUM

DWOOOM

Mraow!

DMP

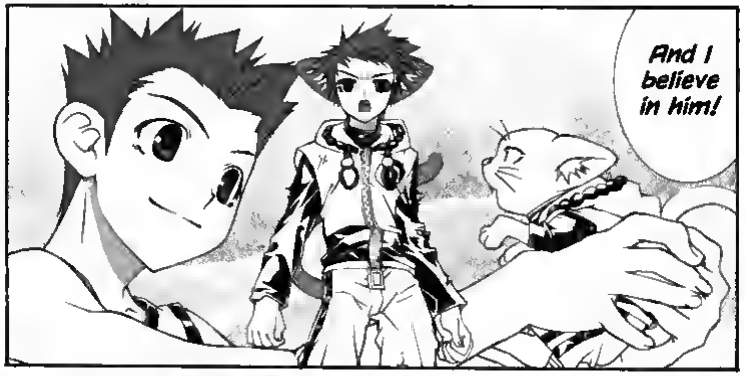
Huh...? For a second I couldn't even see her!
A-Aah!!

You were abandoned by humans for no obvious reason, right?
Oh, dear! You can stand even after that? You must really have it in for any cat who hurts your precious human beings.
WOBBLE

But just because it isn't obvious doesn't mean there weren't reasons!
That's right!

So we're going to be apart for a little while. Be a good kitty! When I get back we'll play together again!
That's a promise!
Cyan...I'll be back as soon as I'm all better.
The same is true for me!

He said he's coming back to Nyan-Man!!
He promised to come back to me!


And I believe in him!

I'm going to get stronger!

Stron-ger!
So I'll never lose to you!

You're dreaming if you think a human can love a cat so much!
SST
Can any promise with a human be worth becoming so strong?
Ultimate Cat Attack!! Sweeping Slayer!!!
See reality for a change!!
10?
PAPAPA
To me, the promise is worth at least this.
I-it vanished?!
SHLUUU

And I'm going to keep my promise to Kokoro-kun!!
Wild Cat? You?! You say some funny things!!
I'll get stronger just like Wild Cat—a cat who can stand against any power!

Because it's a promise with my friend!!!
DOOOOOOM
Ultimate Cat Attack! Suisei! Rin-Rai-Dan!!!!
Comet! Bell-Thunder-Shot!!!

Old man...

We can't just play defense anymore.
We can't let anybody else get sacrificed.

Cat

Does he really trust his master that much...?

Cat Tale 14
BehaviorXRehabilitation

Cat Tale 13 Cyan's Rage END

Let's take Siam out!!!
Let's go! To West Ikebu-kuro!!
Why not, old man?!
Wh-Wha—?!
No! I can't allow you to go as you are now.
Without the surprise, you would have lost.
Your last attack was, to use a term, a jack-in-the-box.
DOOOM
However, it was a win on spirit alone.
You may have won this last battle...
...she knew all of your tricks.
TMP
She proved it. Aside from your last attack...
Do you actually expect me to clean that?!
Hey, just cut that out! Just look at the state of your clothes!
The Siam Army is willing to hurt humans, and I can't allow that!!
No! I'm going to West Ikebu-kuro! Even if I have to go alone!
Mixed blood with a raccoon, so he likes cleaning things.
POW

The Sunshine Aquarium!
Yes! One of the citizens of East Ikebukuro has sent out an emergency signal! The location is...

Scottie, you go, too.
Ame-sho-sama...

We'll follow behind.
Fine. You people go on ahead.

Hey, don't just stand there! We have to move!!
The aquarium?!
Yeah, you just want to go eat some fish again.

O-Okay...

Fine! I'll... fight you!
.....

Old man!
Ame-sho-sama!

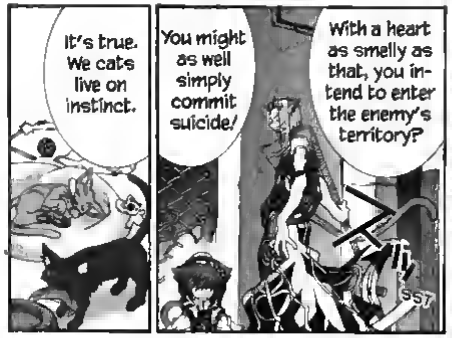
If you are so determined to go, then defeat me first!
Young one!

Cat-kun?!!!!

?! I-It's the Siam Army again?!
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP

Huu!
He's fast!!
?!
GRATCH
Ultimate Cat Attack! Suisei! Rin-Rai—
FUUUM
Comet/ Bell-Thunder—
FWOOO
Old man! Wh- Why...?!
?!
WHAMM

HYUUUUU
SHUU
This is for the cats of East Ike-bukuro!
I won't be the loser here! This is for the Hummm!
Come on, child!
WHOOSH
WHOOSH


It's true. We cats live on instinct.
You might as well simply commit suicide!
With a heart as smelly as that, you intend to enter the enemy's territory?

And it's almost a custom to fly after those who wave a cat toy in our face.
Of course we naturally play around with those who play with us.

U... Urn...
But for this battle, you must break that habit!

...can sense your heart by smell alone!

I...I can't let them get away with it! I can't!!!

That rage is obvious, and everyone...
Don't you understand yet?! Your heart is overflowing with abhorrence for Siam because she hurts your beloved humans.

?!
That was ugly, young one!

Heh heh!
Wh-What's that supposed to mean?!
SUNSHINE WORLD AQUARIUM
Wai—Coon!!
FOOM
Hyaaa-aahh!!
FOOM
On top of all this...
Raaarg!!
KEEEEEE
KRK
WHOOSH
WHOOSH

?!
Ame-sho-sama!
I told you to go to Sunshine with Coon and the others.
Scottie!
SHF
SHF
SHF
SHF
You must... come right now!
B-But it's Coon that's... in trouble!

I-I want her to control me!!
GUL-GULP
If I were able to control that cute little girl...
HEH HEH
WHAMM!!
The Siam Army keeps doing one dirty trick after the next!
TMP
I don't care what you do, but right now we can't even lay a finger on her! What're we gonna do, old man?
I knew you'd say that.
We need a way to take her out!
Cat-kun!
.....

"L-Look at all the fish! Th-They look so tasty!"
UNSHINE WORLD AQUARIUM
I...I saw the advertisement...
M-Minky...?
GULP GULP
...I was attacked by the Siam Army...
GULP
So when I snuck out of my home...
And when help arrived, it was right at the point where the enemy was attacking Minky with their ultimate cat attack!
It was little Minky who sent the emergency signal!
KYUU
UU
But Coon-san tried to protect Minky!
nn
WHOOM
WHOOM
Ultimate Cat Attack! Trance Wave!!

Aside from those in the Siam Army...
...hardly anyone has been able to break this spell! Nyan!
I think it's good to be straightforward about your intentions, but your methods.
Phew! They're doing it again!
Ha ha!
Don't think you'll be able to break my ultimate cat attack! Nyan!
Counter-attack!!
SLIT!
FWOOM

?!
KANG
Meow! How scary! Nyan!
Hyaaah!!
Coon!!
You're being con-trolled!!
Hey! Wake up, Coon!!
HYUU
And he's the one you're going to have to fight! Nyan!
Ha ha! He's my cute little minion! Nyan!

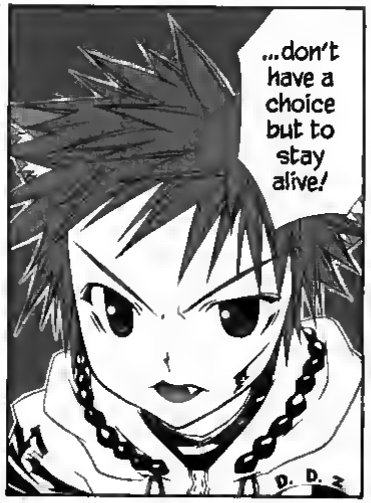
You've got a scary face!!
HUH?

I'm sorry, I'm sorry, Minky.
Ha... Ha ha...

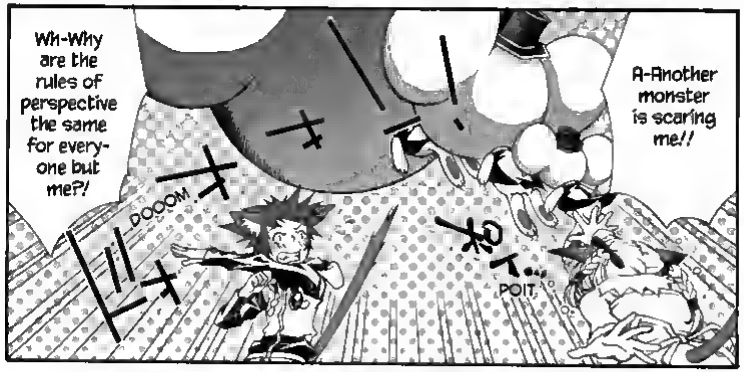
Ha ha...
But that one hurt!

"That rage is obvious, and everyone can sense your heart by smell alone!"

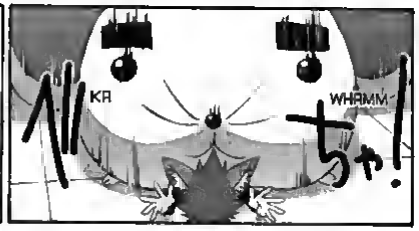
Eeeh?!


Huh...?
...don't have a choice but to stay alive!
D. D. Z

I'll fight you as much as you want, but i...
Ow! That hurt, Coon!


Wh-Why are the rules of perspective the same for everyone but me?!
DOOOM
A-Another monster is scaring me!!
POIT

You're not the same as before!
WHAA
C-Cyan-chama!
AAAH!


KA
WHAMM
ちゃ!

Waah! Churakichi is all muddy!!
?!
Wh-What's he doing this time?!
SLCH
SLCH
SLCH
SLCH
SLCH
SLCH
Eh?!
Go in For the kill, minion!!!
Nyan!!!
D-Don't think you can throw me off!

LIKKA
LIKKA
???
LIKKA
LIKKA
LIKKA
LIKKA
What's with cleaning yourself in the middle of a battle!
Wait!
That's the ugliest thing I've ever seen!
Nyan!
Heh! Showing his belly to an enemy!
WHAMM
SKUNCH
Ah!
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
Scottie-chama! Cyan-chama is acting really weird!!

That order is one I don't obey!
Heh heh...

Nobody can break my cat attack! Nyan?!
Wh-What was that?! Nyan?!

...is coming for you!! Nyan?!
Siam Army Chief Banquet Director, Rin...
TMP

Ha ha! That leaves me no choice! Nyan?!
SST

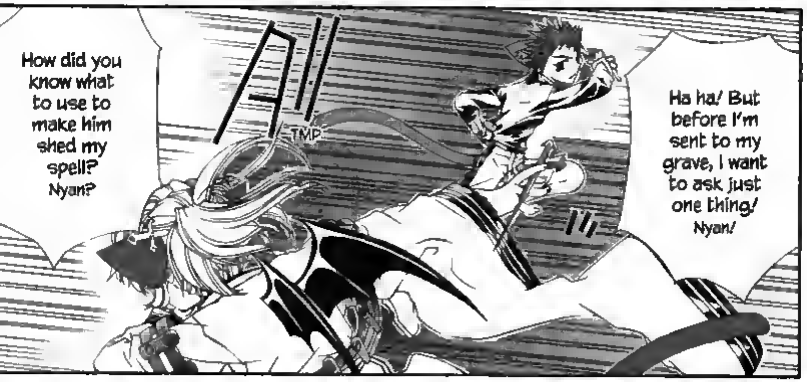
SHUUUUUMM

Cat-kun, get out of there!!!

Ultimate Cat Attack...
Anchor Break!!!

Eeeeehh?!!!
SPLISHA
SPLISHA
SPLISHA
SPLISHA

That's just first-rate! Nyan!
GACH
Is that so?!
SHEEEEE


How did you know what to use to make him shed my spell? Nyan?
TMP
Ha ha! But before I'm sent to my grave, I want to ask just one thing! Nyan!

I needed a reaction out of Coon!
The moment she dropped Churakichi and got it all muddy, it struck me.

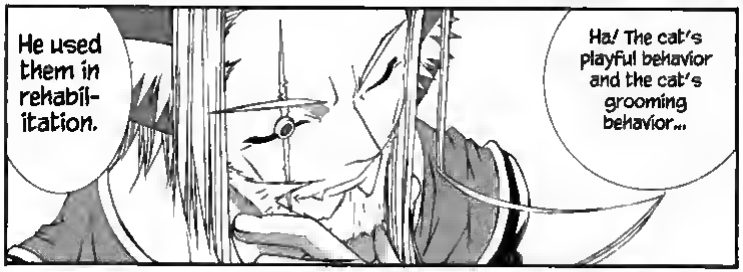
Y-Yeah, that's right! I wanted to wash it!!
???
Ah! Coon, you don't mean ...?!!
GAK
?
It's because of Minky!

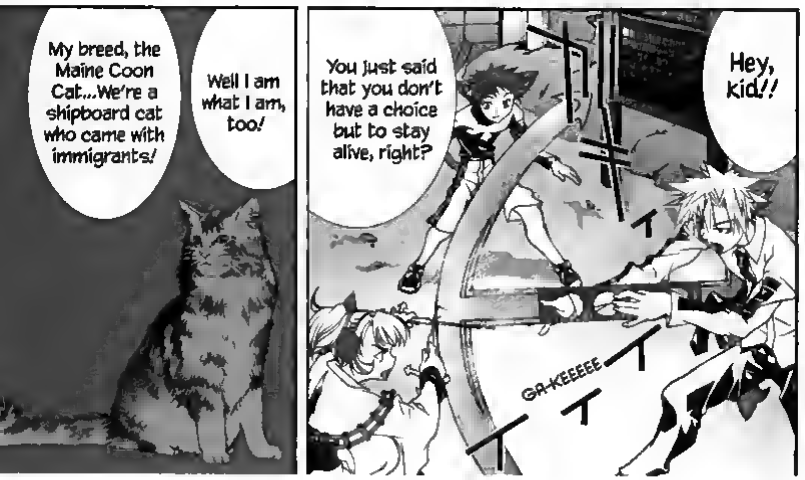
WHOOSH
WHOOSH
"Banquet"? You mean dress code and such?
Th-Then her hypnotism power...

VTT
...was dinner party entertainment?!
VTT
She's good!
Kh!

Ultimate Cat Attack! Suisei Ginga-Dan!!!!
Comet Bell Thunder Shot!!!

It's true that when Coon became the enemy, we lost our cool. It's easy for us to forget that.
URK
I never lost my cool, but...
And the other is to calm oneself down.
One is, of course, to make sure one's fur is in fine shape.


He used them in rehabilitation.
Ha! The cat's playful behavior and the cat's grooming behavior...


My breed, the Maine Coon Cat...We're a shipboard cat who came with immigrants!
Well I am what I am, too!
You just said that you don't have a choice but to stay alive, right?
Hey, kid!!
GA-KEEEEE

Coon is a mix of raccoon blood, and that's why he loves to clean things!
CHANK
Ha ha!

And that's when you started grooming yourself?
She said I was different.
That's thanks to Minky, too.
Then Minky is a hero?
??
Hey! You flew into such a rage because the humans were hurt, but you didn't let such a subtle point pass you by. That takes a calm mind!

There are two reasons why we cats groom ourselves.
You all were the ones who were unnerved.
I thought you were doing that because you were completely unnerved!
Oh? You mean that thing you did in the middle of battle?

S-Siam-sa-maaaa!!!
GM
...I'm not gonna die either!!
Until I see that dream come true...

Ha! When some people trust each other, that's called...
TMP
When did you guys learn that attack?!

...find something much bigger than this aquarium.
Someday I will, too...

Aah!
KANING
I'm going to the open sea!!!
Ultimate Cat Attack!
Kyokusei · Gô · Raikôzan!!!
Pole Star · Great · Lightning Cut!!!

...Friendship!!

But...
EMERGENCY EXIT

You know the answer, kid!
Sure! I know...

Hm? Hmmm?

How did you manage to trust so completely a guy who wasn't himself yet?

What kind of answer was that?!
He's right! Nobody can trust a jerk like him!

Y-You defeated me with such a half-baked feeling?
SST
I just sorta had a feeling, maybe...?

What was that?!
Still, that was a splendid attack, young one! Ha ha ha ha ha!!

Eh? Eh?
Y-You mean...?!

Shall we begin preparing for a journey?

And now...
?

Cat Tale 15 The Place One Must Be

Cat Tale 14 BehaviorXRehabilitation END

...and take down Siam!!
Be careful. We're in enemy territory.
It sure isn't very homey!
Let's go...
A... Arrrg! What is that?!
FLAFF
FLAFF
FLAFF

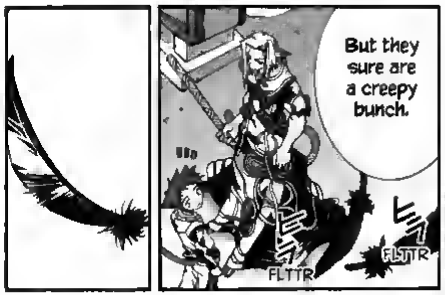
Entrance Ikebukuro West
We're in...
We're finally here!
西一番
広場
池袋演劇場
...West Ikebukuro!!

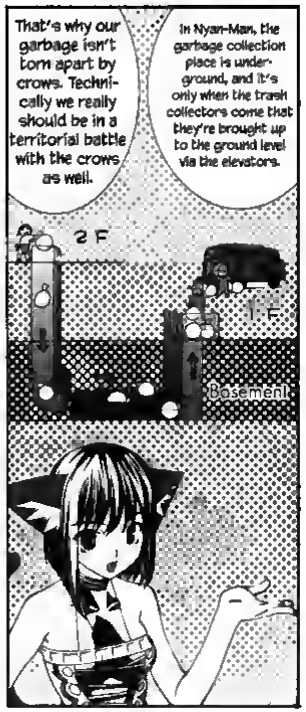
"I will defend Nyan-Man!"
"My defensive preparations are perfect!"
"Everything is all right."
KLIKKA
KLIKKA
KLIKKA

"Thank you, Scottie, you be careful, too!"
"Cat-kun, here's a protective charm! Please take care!"

"I'll be here at your home, Nyan-Man!"
"I will! Be sure to come back unharmed. I'll be here waiting for you!"

You see them in East Ikebukuro, too, right? But West Ikebukuro has far more restaurants, so the birds gather around the many garbage bags.
HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH
Ha ha! Those are crows.
FLAFF
FLAFF


But they sure are a creepy bunch.
FLTTR
FLTTR


That's why our garbage isn't torn apart by crows. Technically we really should be in a territorial battle with the crows as well.
In Nyan-Man, the garbage collection place is underground, and it's only when the trash collectors come that they're brought up to the ground level via the elevators.
2 F
1 F
Basement

Why am I suddenly worried about Scottie and the others at home?
GAK!

Rat's with them, too, right?
They'll be fine.

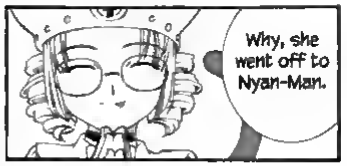
GLANCE
GLANCE
And he's already in!!!!
What'll we do? Maybe we should go in anyway...
.....
But what is this? I never thought we'd get this far without an attack from the Siam Army.
W-Wow! Who'd have thought all these females would be in places like this...?
That was thoughtless, young one!
That was thoughtless, old man!!
PRIVATE ROOM
WHAMM
Huh?!
Nice to meet you! I'm the leader of the Free Collars!!
Places like what ...?!
G-GOING
SNEAK
GLARE
SNEAK
I-I've got a few boring errands to run, too...

That's right! We're Free Collars, and Scottie is also one of us!
This is the headquarters of the Siam Army?
And with all this conversation, we've arrived.
Right!
Ha...Ha ha!
S-Somehow it suits Siam, doesn't it?
TOUHIME
十姫
ソープランド
十姫

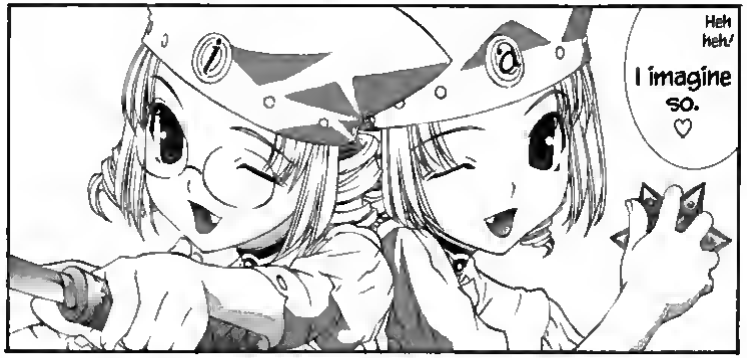
Wha—?!
Char!!
BAMM
?!!
BOFF
This has gotta be a trap!
HA!
B-But I saved you!!
Serves you right!
HA!
Y-You've got to gain ten million years of experience before you can get me back, l-little boy...?!
GAKLANNNG
Just as you suspected, this is a trap!
Ha ha ha...
TWIK!

PLISHA
PLISHA
Ahhh!
Ahhh!
Ahh!
I'm going, even if I have to go alone!!
Oh, come on!!
DOOM
A!!
You're so spoiled!
Oh, you! Amesho-sama!
Ahhh!
Ah...
Ahhh!
What I wonder is why is there nobody here. Despite what the old man and Coon are doing, this is...
B-But that isn't important.
HEH
HEH
This is Siam's room?! It's covered in gems!!
GLEEM
GLEEM
Wow!!

But it looks like the only thing we can do is take these two down!
What was that?!

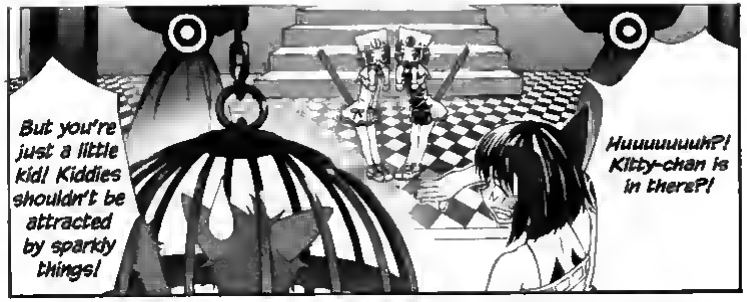

Why, she went off to Nyan-Man.

Today the Siam Army is out in force.♡
It's such an auspicious day, too!


Heh heh!
I imagine so.♡

?!
VWMM
VWMM

TMP
TMP
WHOOSH


But you're just a little kid! Kiddies shouldn't be attracted by sparkly things!
Huuuuuuuh?! Kitty-chan is in there?!

Y-You're the two who are always with Siam looking after her!

Oh, dear!♡
I can hear you!!
Things are going a little overboard here.
Male gold digger

WHISPER
No, just the opposite. I'm sure he'll be raised to be a male gold digger!
I'm sure he'll be really something in the future.
WHISPER
Shh! They can hear us.

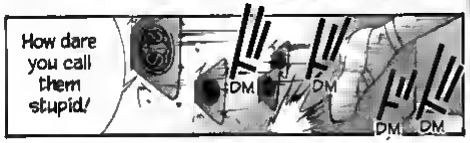
I and A???
Say, where did Siam get off to?!!

That's right! We're A-ko and I-ko.

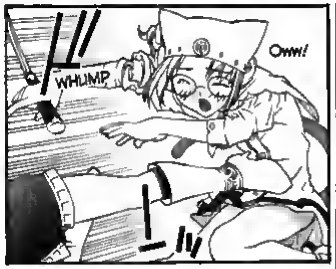
Siam-sama is our savior!
Please give these kittens a home!
Siam-sama saw us there crying, and without saying a word, she held out her hand to us!

A-Are these girls really cats?! Their speed is almost like a rabbit's!!
Kyaa!!
We do take care of her, but behind all that, Siam-sama...
Wh-When did they...
AH!
We'll tell you the next part in secret!
...turned us into excellent body-guards!!

...for girls with stupid names!
FWSH
FWSH
FWSH
You guys are pretty good...

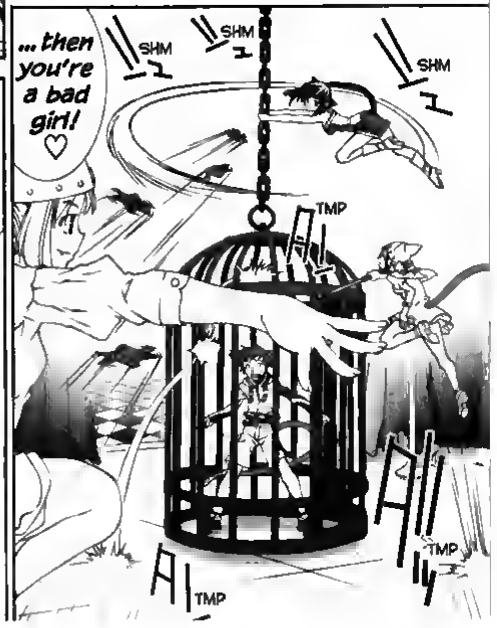

How dare you call them stupid!
DM
DM
DM
DM

They match each other's attack well, and their quick moves! They jump around like ninja!


WHUMP
Oww!

And if you mock our names...
Those are precious names given to us by Siam-sama directly!

...while he was wandering around Ikebukuro!
We were abandoned by our owner...
TMP


...then you're a bad girl! ♡
SHM
SHM
SHM
TMP
TMP
TMP

Your breed is Manx, right?

Their back legs are longer than their front, and they jump around a lot like rabbits.
Yeah. That's their distinctive feature.

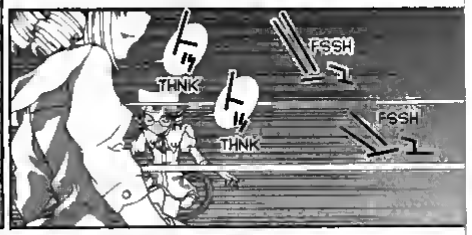
Manx?! You mean those cats with no tails?!
GAK
GWOOGH
You saw?!

That's what I thought! Otherwise you'd never attach those tails!
Eeeek!!
DM
DM
DM
DM
DM
TMP

D-Don't look at that! We can't live without our tails!!
WHOOSH

Hmm??
Hm?
Think think??

?!!
A rabbit's...? It couldn't be...!!


THNK
THNK
FSSH
FSSH

SU
Ehh?!!!
POINK

I knew it!
Eh??
Noooooo!!!

We didn't want to be sad anymore, so we decided to make our own tails.
"Wow!"
"This plush toy's tail will work perfectly!"
"They don't have any tails!"
"Mommy, those cats are strange!"
Just because we didn't have any tails, we were always treated like weird cats.
We're afraid we can't let you leave alive!!
But now that you know this...
We can never let you tell Siam-sama!!!
P!
It's a secret even from Siam?!

ZM
DM
That's right!!
Did you make those tails yourselves?
Ha!!
But they're not working together anymore!
SHUUUU
They've got an incredible power now that they didn't have before!
N-No! Calm down, okay?
It should be just the opposite! You two should be in the cage...
GLARE
You've been mumbling all along! You got something to complain about?!
Uwaa!
KA-KANNNG
Gah!!
-WHRMM

How can a place where you have to tell lies be the place where you feel most at home?

Wh-What do you know?! In any case, we don't want Siam-sama to see us like this!
TREMBLE
TREMBLE

Y-You dummy!!!

Ch-Char... you're showing lots of skin!
Little boy, sometimes you surprise me.
POP

AH!

This is the one place in the world where we don't want to be rejected!!
Sh-She's got a perfect defense!
Our time with Siam-sama is when we feel most at home!!

It doesn't matter whether you have a tail or not!
WHAMM
That's wrong!!

?!!
THUD
THUD
THUD
You're all friends, aren't you?!
THUD
THUD

How can you go on not being yourselves?!
That's right!

Friends?!

Where'd she get that kind of power from?!
She used her wild spirit to send it back at us?!
Besides... I have a dream of my own!
I can't be defeated in a place like this! I have to get back to Nyan-Man fast!
...but we are going to go pro!!
Right now my band are a bunch of amateurs...
HWOO
WHOOM
Ultimate Cat Attack! Stardust Hurricane!!!

THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP

Ultimate Cat Attack! Love Strike!!!!
Let's go!!

S-Siam-sa-maaaa!!!

Char! Go for it!

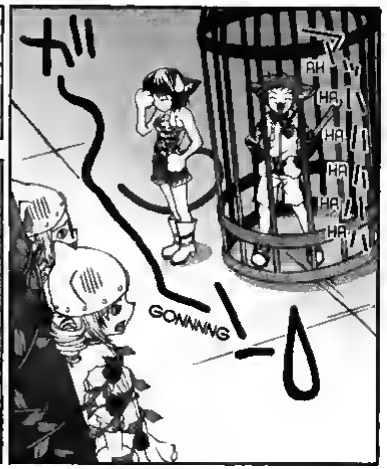
Ah! She's found one. She has her own dream!

...will be the best place to live in the world!!!
And Nyan-Man, where all my friends are...

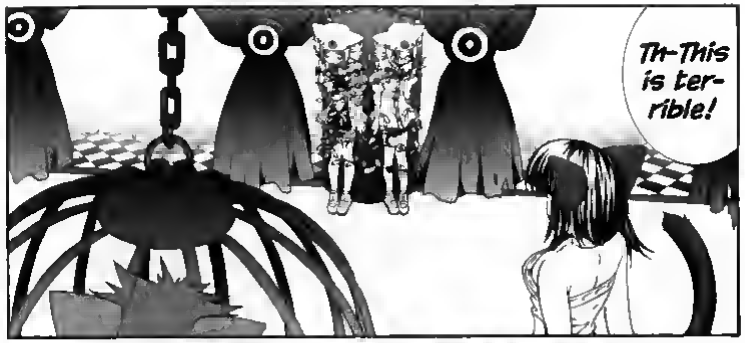
It's kind of cool!!!

Living while you're hiding yourself...

I can't think of anything more painful.


AH
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
GONNNNG

I don't care how dirty or small the place is, if it's a place where you can live as you are...


Th-This is terrible!

Why don't you let Siam see.
Say...

Besides ...
Yeah! She won't hate you!

Courage?

Show some courage!

...then I think that would be the place where you must be!
Siam-sama! That disease, where you lick your paw-pads is showing up again!

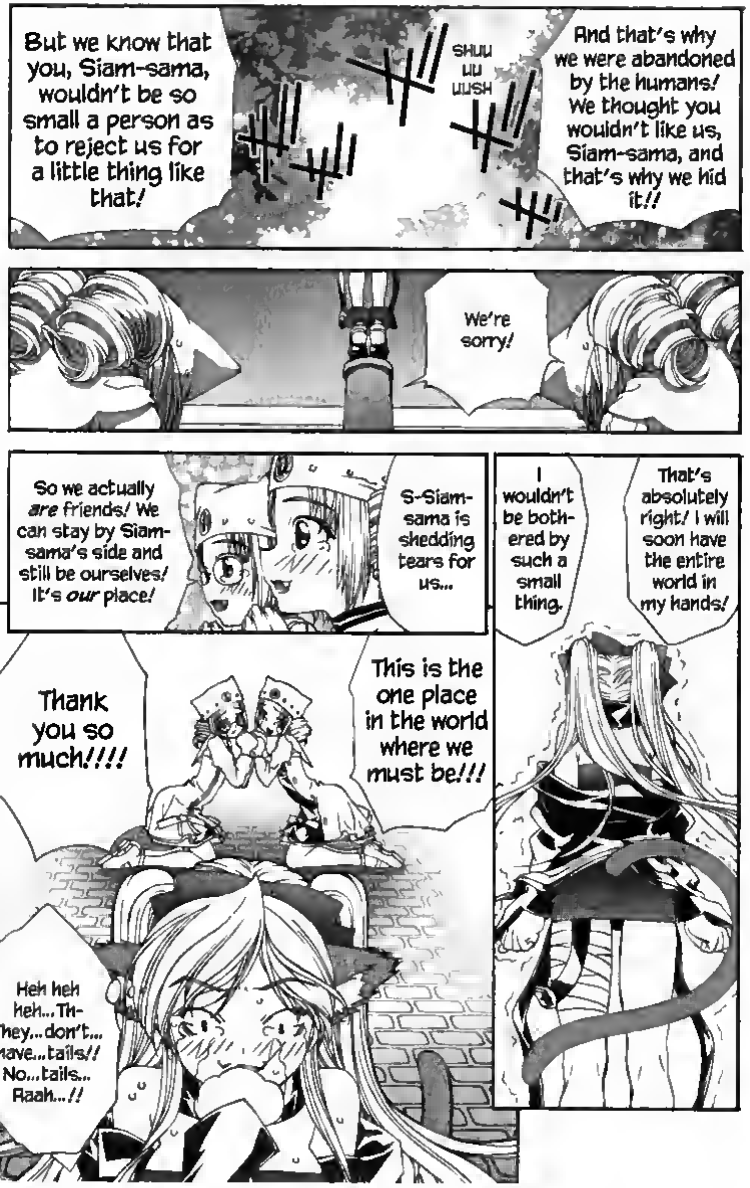
AHO
AHO
AHO

You were the first one to fall into their trap, old man!!
Hey! You out there!!
And in the end, we've all been caught, huh?

But who'd have ever thought that the crows would be working for Siam?
HA
HA
HA
Oh, wake up!!!
Eh? Me? A trap?

Scottie!!!

Open this thing up!!
Th-That's right! We have to go back and save Scottie!
I-I think this has gotten a little away from the subject at hand...
Y-You're probably right.
Ha ha ha...
I think Siam-sama would under-stand...
Maybe... we should tell her.
FWAFF
We refuse to let you hinder Siam-sama in any way!
We can't allow that!
FWAFF
FWAFF
FWAFF


But we know that you, Siam-sama, wouldn't be so small a person as to reject us for a little thing like that!
SHUU NN HSHN
And that's why we were abandoned by the humans! We thought you wouldn't like us, Siam-sama, and that's why we hid it!!
We're sorry!
So we actually are friends! We can stay by Siam-sama's side and still be ourselves! It's our place!
S-Siam-sama is shedding tears for us...
I wouldn't be bothered by such a small thing.
That's absolutely right! I will soon have the entire world in my hands!
Thank you so much!!!!
This is the one place in the world where we must be!!!
Heh heh heh... Th-They... don't... have... tails!! No... tails... Raah...!!

...hiding something from you, Siam-sama...
U-Um... We have been...
Ha ha! Things have been proceeding smoothly here as well.
Siam-sama! We have captured four of the Free Collars.
Nyan-Man...
HWOO
We're all friends here!
NOD
It'll be okay, right?
WHISPER
WHISPER
You see, we...
?!!
...don't have any tails!

Cat Tale 15 The Place One Must Be END

Just as I expected, Kitty-chan left Nyan-Man and went on a Siam-hunting expedition in West Ikebukuro to end our territorial battles.
Oh, dear! You mustn't make such a sad face...
ZLMM

KAK
KAK
Rat-kun is still inside of Nyan-Man...
You haven't won yet...
They will never come back here again!
So they went to Siam Army Headquarters and are imprisoned within!

It's simply a matter of time now.
Heh! One little kitten...

And of the two left, you have captured one.
Four of the six Free Collars have been captured in East Ikebukuro...
Kline, you have done well.

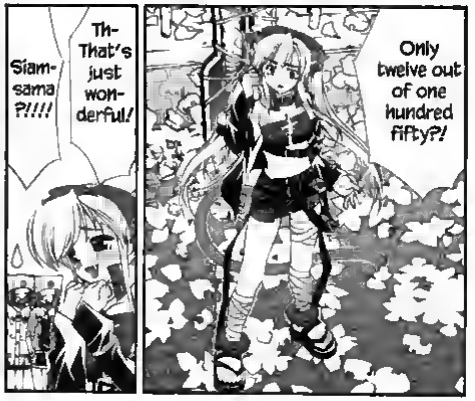
And in only a matter of hours...
Yes!

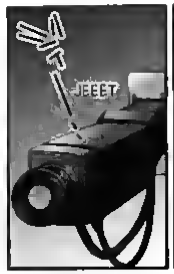
Nyan-Man will belong completely to you, Siam-sama!

DWHOOOM

That will be plenty!

TIK
TIK
TIK
12


Siam-sama P!!!!
Th-That's just wonderful!
Only twelve out of one hundred fifty?!


JEEET

Maurits-chan!♡ This is Siam! What's your condition there?

Yes, ma'am! This is Maurits.
Somebody stop that thing!
FWIK
FWIK
HAHH
HAHH

We are left with twelve soldiers, but...
We have arrived at the back door to Nyan-Man's basement!

?!
TMP
TMP
Siam Army, into the breach!!
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
Who are you?!!
Be careful! Mii!
Let's see how you do in hand-to-hand combat!! Mii!!
WHOOSH
You impudent wretch!
Number three!!
?!!
THWAK
Number two!!!
It may seem like I'm casting aspersions, but since we've come this far, it seems like your brains haven't been much use...
Those defense mechanisms were your doing? Mii?
Rat! The brainiest of the Free Collars, and he uses a crossbow!

Seven
Eight
THAK
THAK
L-Look how fast he did that...
Nine
THAK
Ten
THAK
I thought you were just a kid!!
WHOOSH
TMP
Gaah!!
GYUU
GATCH
GYUU
GYUU
GYUU

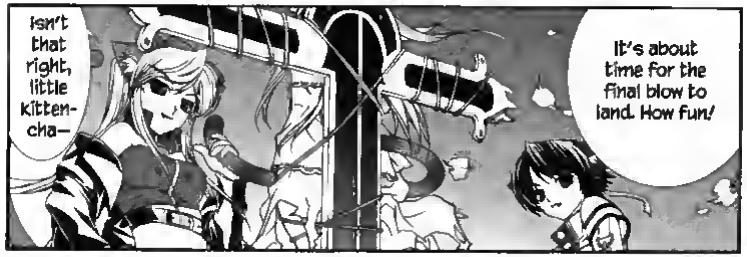
FWOOM
Nyan-Man belongs to Siam-sama now!
Heh!
KLANG
TMP
KLANG
VWRRL
THAK
THAK
THAK
Five
Six
Four
THAK

!!!
Twelve
HAHH
GA
HAHH
POK

Ultimate Cat Attack!! Shooting Twin Arrow!!
But can your body keep up with it? Mii?
That's some wild spirit you have there.
?!

Huh? That's unbecoming of you!
Ultimate Cat Attack!! Bloody Storm!!!!
POK

Rat-kun ?!!!
TWIK


Isn't that right, little kitten-cha—
It's about time for the final blow to land. How fun!

BLAMM
GYAKK
?!!
ROLLL
ROLLL
ROLLL
PONK

TIP
PARA
?!!!
SHUU
!
That's far enough!!
KEEE

That's right! Little Minky went as backup just like Scottie-chama told me to!
Ah!! It's you?!
POTT
It's drawn toward the protection charm that I gave Cat-kun.
Minky, follow after the feather. It will take you to where Cat-kun is.
SSS
TOUHIME
FWUU
FWUU
This is it.
姫
GLANCE
GLANCE

...Scottie!
We're home...
Sure! Thanks to the protection charm that you gave me!
Cat-kun! Everybody! You're all okay?!
?!
Eh? Ehhh?! That's impossible! How'd you do it? Everybody was inside the cages!

Ultimate Cat Technique! Misty Feather!!!
I-I won't make any mistakes this time!
POFF
H-Hey, what are you doing?
Ha!
FWIPP
H-Hey!!
SHUUUUU
Wh-What's with this fog all of a sudden!
So the next problem is what do we...
BWAAH
Wow. . ♡
That's what you wanted to do?

But why are you all in cages?
Ah! Cyan-chama! There you are!
There are birds standing guard over you all??
Ah!
Wait! Be quiet!
Huh? Minky, why are you here?
WHISPER
Here Minky goes!!
Scottie-chama gave me one of these smoke balls.
They look so delicious! ♡
Every-thing is okay!
But...How is she going to help us? We're being guarded, and...

Why is perspective going all haywire on us?!!
Ehhhh?
Go! Churakichi!!
BWOOON

Th-Thank you.
Koff
SWOOOOOON
STRUGGLE
STRUGGLE

After that, we heard, "A sparkly! That's mine!" And, "No, that one's mine!".
That was the easy part. Once the smoke cleared up, we took all of the sparkly gems you had and scattered them all around.

But what about the crows?
And that's what happened.

They didn't seem like very reliable people.
I think Char was a little envious.
They were so busy taking all of the gems, they didn't care about anything that we did.

Oh? I didn't think you'd notice.
And more than that! Those clothes are mine!!
Is that what you were worried about?!
A-All of my gems!!
GYAAAAH!
W-We're sorry! We trusted in the crows to guard them, and that led to their escape!
A-ko!! I-ko!!!

We will clean you out, not leaving one standing!!
You cannot be forgiven, Free Collars!!

Got it!
Char and Coon, go check on Rat!
Minky, go hide someplace!

?!
Old man, don't move! You will not interfere in Siam-sama's battle!
Young one!!
TMP
I'll never let that happen!!
?
Do as I say, or this girl gets hurt...
Don't call me old!!
ZACHARM
Aaaahhh!

With just a little bit more time, Nyan-Man would have become mine!
Just a little bit more...
Then we could abandon them on a whim!!
And with that, we would control the humans, and we cats would become the owners!
...I would have reached the summit of all cats!
And after I had found Wild Cat's collar...
Y-You can't...
After I'm through, you'll think just like I do!!
HA!
HA!
HA!
HA!
HA!

I will protect Nyan-Man!!
©DV
REVOLUSIONAL
He carried out his promise at the cost of his life--

Swinging from a rope again.
S-Siam-sam-aaaa! Miiii!!
FLUUM
FLUUM

SLUMP
SLUMP
Don't make a guy worry like that!
He's alive!

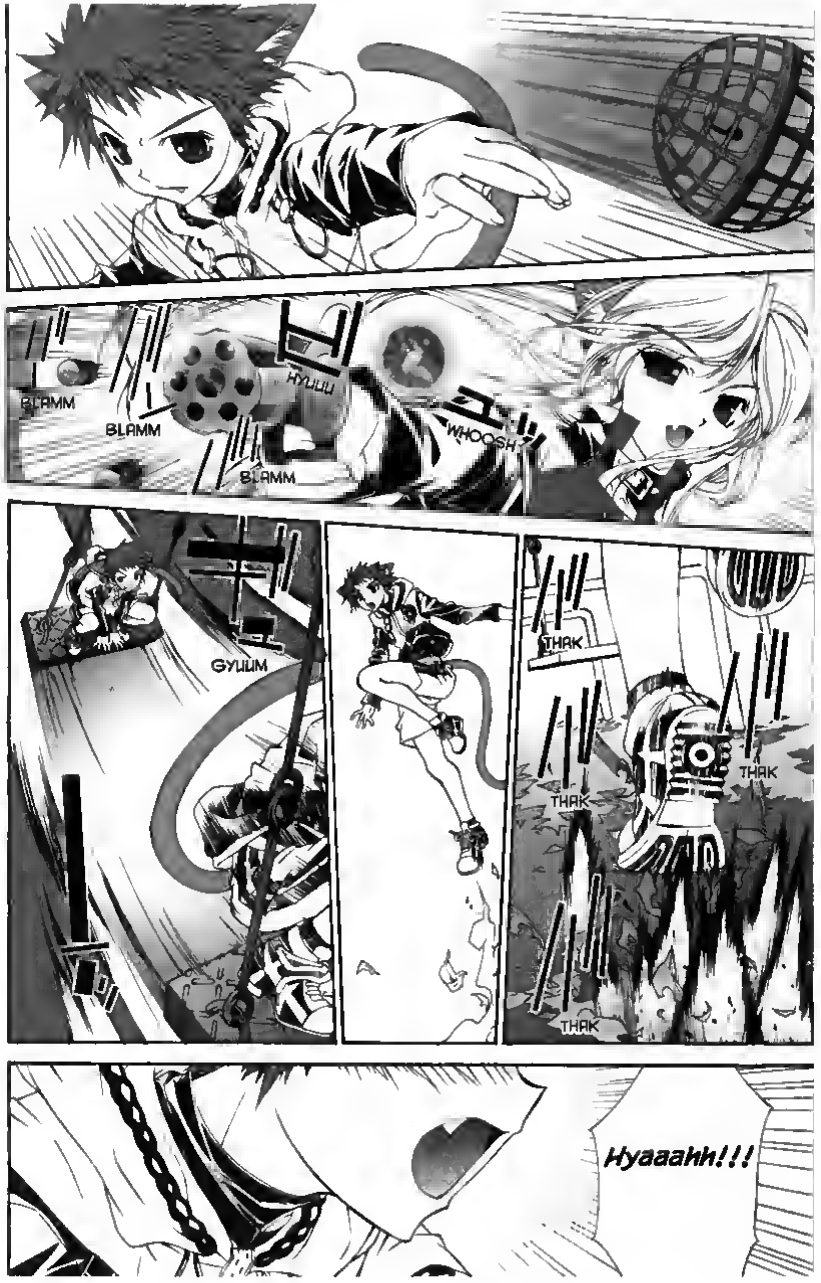
I won't die before I become a great inventor!
It didn't quite cost my life...
Please don't kill me off before my time

It's the assassin Chami?!
Aah!
You can't come this way!
N-Now's my chance!
SHH

Rat! Rat?!
KA
CHANK

I never expected it...to turn out like this...
Rat...

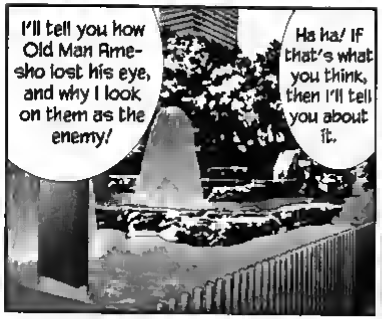
BLAMM
BLAMM
BLAMM
BLAMM
Haaah!!
GWIP
I never imagined he'd be so strong!
TMP
WHOOSH
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM


BLAMM
BLAMM
HYUUU
BLAMM
WHOOSH
GYUUM
THAK
THAK
THAK
THAK
Hyaaahh!!!

Noo!! Cat-kun!!!
...we could kill each other!!
If this goes on...
He's that good?!
Now!
TWIK
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
Suisei! Rin-Rai-Dan!!!!
ZZT
ZZT
ZZT
ZZT
Comet-Bell-Thunder-Shot!!!
DMM
DMM
DMM
ZZMMMMM

One more "Hyaah"!
WHOOSH
He vanished?!
?!
Ultimate Cat Attack! Suisei-Reirai-Dandôken!!!
Kh!!
AA
AA
AA
Comet-Bell-Thunder-Bullet-Speed-Shot!!!

I don't think that's the talk of a man missing an eye because of the humans!!
You say this battle has no meaning?


I'll tell you how Old Man Ameshio lost his eye, and why I look on them as the enemy!
Ha ha! If that's what you think, then I'll tell you about it.

It's a lie! You're just lying!!
Old man, your eye was caused by humans?!
?!!

Of course I can!
And after you hear this story, I wonder if you can still love the humans!

We're cats! It's foolishness for us to fight over humans!
Stop it! This battle has no meaning!

Old man! I told you not to move!!
WHOOSH

The one who shouldn't move is you!
SST

Old man!!
ZMM ZMM ZMM

... called myself by that name!
We have our own love that isn't coerced by anything!
We won our freedom by our own strength, and that's how we became Free Collars!
...the name has such a homey ring to it.
Free Collars...
At one time, I, too...

Cat Tale 17 The Return of the Queen

Cat Tale 16 Siam's Collar END

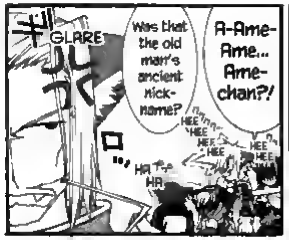
Why?
Why does Siam have a Free Collar around her neck?!
What's going on? Siam called herself a Free Collar at one time?!
?!!
Exactly!
A long time ago, she was one of us!!

That's right. It was a different Free Collars from yours, and including Old Man Amesho, it counted five cats.
I lived at Nyan-Man too.
I'll tell you about it.
I'll tell you how I became the Free Collars' enemy and why I hate humans.
SHH
So what happened to make things turn out this way?
Fine.
SST

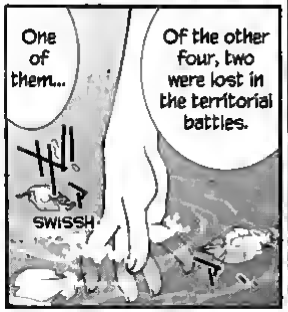
And that child was chased by humans as much as you are.
He was a tomcat about the same age as you.

HAHH
HAHH
HAHH

TMP
Puriam!
They'll never catch me!!
You'll have a rich home, and we'll get rich by selling you!
Hey, little Siamese kitty! Let us catch you! We'll make you into a very wealthy cat!
TMP
TMP
TMP


GLARE
Was that the old man's ancient nick-name?
A-Ame-Ame... Ame-chan?!
HEE HEE HEE HEE
HA HA HA

As I just said, two of us were myself and Ame-chan.
Back then... There were six cats in the Free Collars.
FLASH


One of them...
Of the other four, two were lost in the territorial battles.
SWISSH

That's what the human said.
"I'll be your master!"
"Poor little thing."
A human carted her off even though she didn't want it.

SHH
SHH
SHH
SHH
And the final one...
WINK
GRNK
Kh...!

Outta the way! We don't need any adult cats!
BAA
SHEEE
Pu-chan! Pu-chan! Get out of there!
Siam?!
WHUD
Huh?
TMP
I've got you now, cat-chan—
Aah!!

Ee...
Eyaaaahh!
GRRM
MM
MM
MM
DOOOM
Ra! What's with you! I'd never be able to sell you!!
You ass!!
You idiot! Let's go home! We can't sell it now!
Aw, man! It killed him!

...my brother!!!
Yes...The one who died was...
It's not true! It's not true!!!
They can't... Humans did...?
?!!
Ah... Ah...
And took Amesho-sama's eye, too?!
Humans killed your bother...

B-Big sister, Siam...
Y-You can't die! You promised me...
WHAMM
SLISS
Kh... Khaah...
Big sis-ter?!!
You can't die!!!
Pu-chan! Pu-chan! You can't...

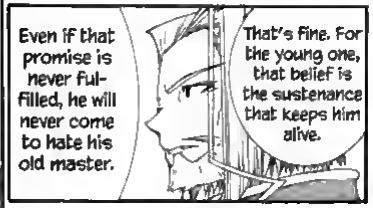
P!! Feelings?
...would it have changed any of the feelings you hold inside?
If I told you...
Not for me.
It wouldn't. It wouldn't have changed anything...

Cat-kun...
There are a lot of humans out there who do their best to understand cats!!
WHAM
I've talked to Scottie about this before!
Young one...
Ko-koro-kun!
Ko-koro-kun!
You should have told me about your eye! About Siam!!
Why?! Why didn't you tell me about this?!!
WHOOSH

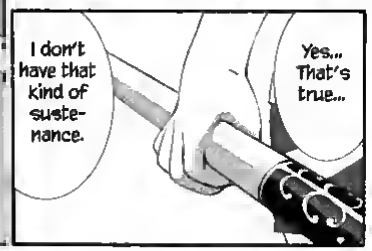
You even lost an eye to them!
DOOM
Puriam was murdered right before your eyes!
However!
Of course I hated the humans!
So why ...?!!
And our free choice to fight!!
FWOOM
We are Free Collars! Nothing binds us! It's our free choice to run! To eat!
We do it for ourselves!!
We don't do it for others!

Ha! That's the way it should be.
I trust in the humans!!!
PARRRR
That's how it should be?!
It should?
TWIK
Never!!!
I will never forgive the humans!!
PASHRRRRR

That's an oath!!
But I'm going to stay alive!
ZATT


Even if that promise is never fulfilled, he will never come to hate his old master.
That's fine. For the young one, that belief is the sustenance that keeps him alive.

I don't call that being tied.

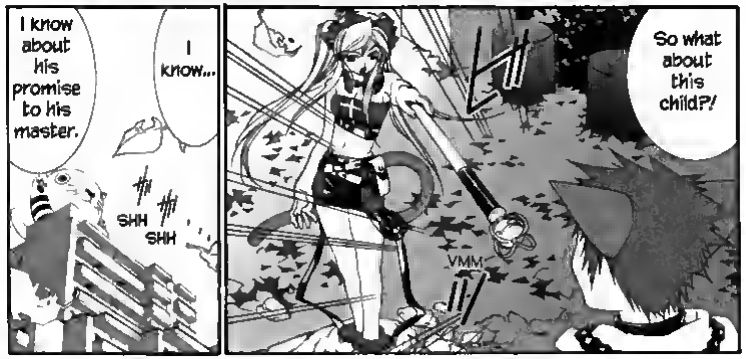

I don't have that kind of sustenance.
Yes... That's true...

But...
You don't need to make an oath.

If she's gone that far...!!

That's why you took yourself away from Nyan-Man.
You understand it now, don't you? You've been caught up in that incident, and now you're tied to the humans.
STPP

And so...?
.....


I know about his promise to his master.
I know...
SHH
SHH
So what about this child?!
VMM

He's even more tied to the humans!
He believes that once his disease is cured, his master will come back to Nyan-Man for him.

People still die when it's time to die!!
BASHEEEEE
I won't be defeated! Not until I've become as strong as Wild Cat!!!
With their competing ways of living, there's no room for both of them anymore!
WHOOOO
Stop it!!!
Little boy!
Cyan's sustenance is his humans, and that's how he lives! Siam lives for her oath to take revenge on the humans!
?!
Wild Cat?

If you don't have a dream, life has no meaning!
That's right!
?!!! A dream?!
We've won our freedom so we can fulfill our dreams!
That's what it means to live!!
But even if one has a dream...
...but...
A dream... That child had one, too...

...I'll...
I can't help it...and so...
I can't deny it! When I see you, it brings out a reaction in me!
...and turn it into something that will only sustain a dream!
...take your sustenance...
?!!
BLAAAMM
PAAA

"Then I'll be able to protect my big sister!"
"When I get older, I'm going to become as strong as Wild Cat!"
Puriam ?!!
...them together, too?
You saw...
Please...
Yes... Yes, it's true.
SHH
I get the feeling that I'm seeing him, and before I know it, I'm reacting as if I'm reacting to him.
.....
...Puriam!!

Ultimate Cat Attack! Suisei • Rin • Rai • Dan!
DWOO
M-My body... is tingling... But...this is a prison I can break out of!!
It's no use.
GRCH
GRCH
GRCH
Waaaa!!!
...farewell to you!!
And now we'll say...

It's a Stun Shot.
N-Nooooo!!!
PAAAAA
POFF

I'll be the stray cat's stray cat!!!!!
DM
WHOOSH
ZZT
Instead he created a barrier?!
I am going to become Wild Cat!

Ultimate Cat Attack!
DWOOOOOOM
Ros
Hea
Square!!
You mean he wasn't trying to break the attack with the ball...?!
Wha-?!
ZZT
?!
Young one...!!

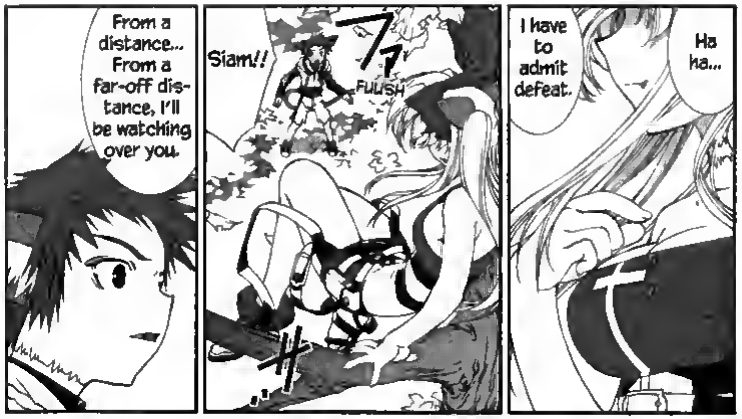
Did it miss?!
PAKOOOM
Ha ha! My ultimate cat attack...
?!
THAFF

In my... rage, I forgot.
All of the many, many fun memories I've had with humans.
That's right. I remember them, too.
Puriam!!! Kitty-chan!!!
"Think of all the fun times we had with them."
"Pu-chan, why do you love humans? We were abandoned by them!"

Pu-chan!!
?!
Free Collar Reveal Shot!!!
Ha ha!
...have nothing... that ties you down, do you?
Siam, you, too...

?!
SHUMM

When did that happen?
And we'll be right there with Siam-sama...
SIAM-01
SIAM
ZWING
Siam-sama ...!
ZWING


From a distance... From a far-off distance, I'll be watching over you.
Siam!!
FUUSH
I have to admit defeat.
Ha ha...

Waiting for the day you become Wild Cat.

GRSSH
But for today... Good job!!

This territorial battle goes on and on!!

Don't get cocky!!
I am the stray cat's stray cat!!
Yes!!

For today...
Yes, Ma'am!!
Now, my Siam Army, from now on, we'll be making even more elegant moves!
Farewell, Cyan of the Free Collars!

...I'm just one of the cats in the Free Collars!

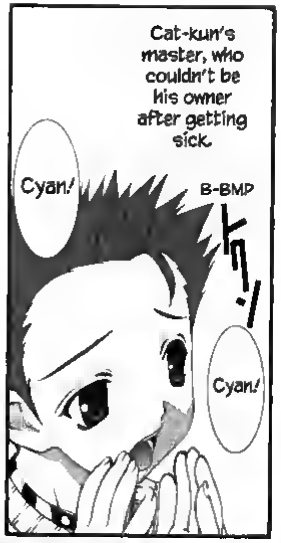
Siam isn't our only enemy.

No...

It's all over!
You did it! You took down Siam!
Cyan-chama! You were so cool!
Phew!
Cat-kun!

"I'll be back..."

"...as soon as I'm all better."



Cat Tale 17 The Return of the Queen "END

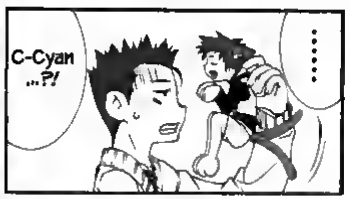
He's... come for me...
It was all to keep surviving.
And to keep your promise to him.
We all understand what you're feeling. We know that the only reason you took off your collar was to become as strong as Wild Cat.
SHHHH
Aren't you... going?

Cat Tale 18 (Final Chapter)
A Stray Cat's Heaven

Myauuun!!!
Kokoro-kun!!!

Those are my lines!!
Cyan!!! I've been looking all over for you! I was so worried!!

Uwaaaa!!!
GRATCH


C-Cyan ...?!
.....

Stop...

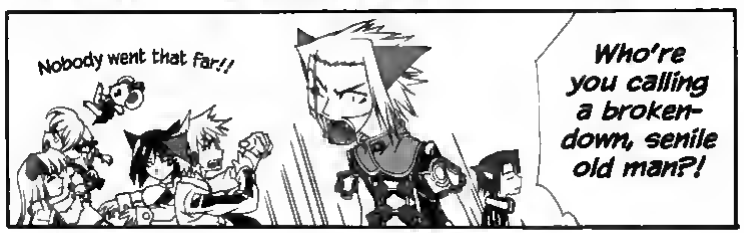
Gya ha ha ha! Gya ha ha ha! Stop it—
no
no
Okay! Time for Secret Cat Attack #2!! Drawing Letters on the Tummy!

However...
I can understand how you would never want to leave us...

HUGG

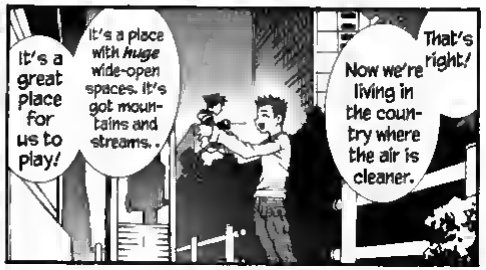
The place you must be is the place where you can be yourself.
You said it yourself, little boy.

TMP
Cyan-chama! You have to sit patiently and listen when elders are speaking to you!
You don't think he may have simply been overcome with emotion, do you?
Gah?!!
It's Kokoro-kun!!!


Nobody went that far!!
Who're you calling a broken-down, senile old man?!

Let's go.

Go... home?!!
B-BMP
We have to make our plane, so we can't be late
In an hour, I'm going to meet Mother at the station

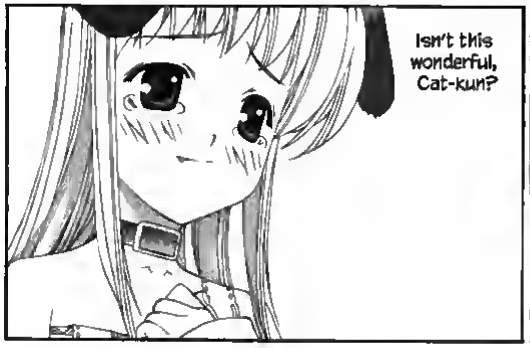

It's a great place for us to play!
It's a place with huge wide-open spaces. It's got mountains and streams.
Now we're living in the country where the air is cleaner.
That's right!

TWIK

So, let's go home now! Go to our new home!
?!!

But it's all right now. We'll be together forever!
It's all because I became sick that it came to this!
I'm sorry! I'm so sorry!
Ko-koro... kun... I always...

...believed in you!

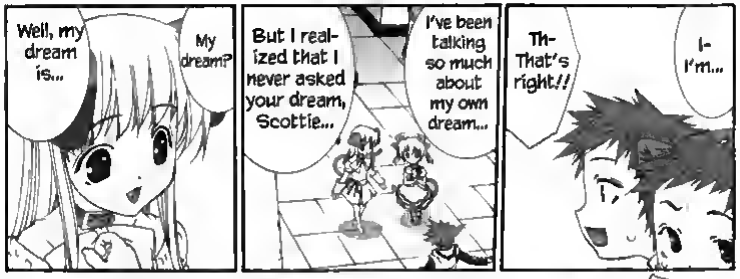

Isn't this wonderful, Cat-kun?

Thank goodness!

What's wrong with me?!
HAHH
HAHH
HAHH
Kokoro-kun has come for me!
What's wrong with me?
But... my feet...
And I'm happy about that! So very happy!
Where... Where do I think I'm going?!
AH?
Cyan-chama!!
Scottie?! I... just...
Cat-kun?! Why...?

I... I...
Cyan?
?!
HYUP
What's wrong, Cyan? Come here, okay?
Cyan!!
TMP

Where is my home?!!


Well, my dream is...
My dream?
But I realized that I never asked your dream, Scottie...
I've been talking so much about my own dream...
Th-That's right!!
I-I'm...

TWIK
Go home!!!

D-Dehydrated bean? You mean that cat food?
He's right! You should go back to your own home and eat some of your famous dehydrated bean mix!
SHH SHH SHH

This isn't your place to come back to anymore!

Maurits, left behind by the Siam Army, is now making a living as a maid.
AH HA HA HA
おはは
You make it sound like dehydrated droppings!
SHH SHH SHH

KLNCH
B-But we're...

Welcome to Today's Kittens!
We're friends, aren't we?!!

I have to get to the station now!
Where did you go?!
Cyan!
Cyan!!
Nyan-Man's Rooftop
Damn them!!!
Scottie...

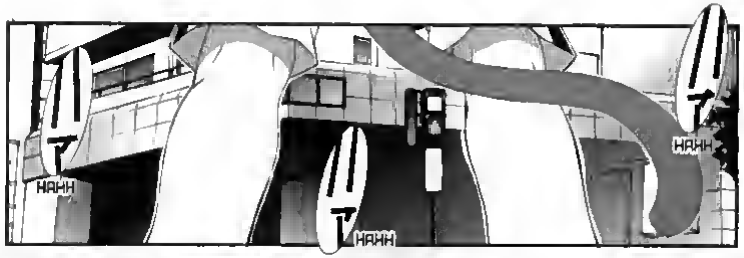
The kittens for today are from the town of Kadoma within Osaka city limits. These are the kittens of the Arakawa household!
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
WHOOSH
BAMM
Bye-bye...

TMP
TMP
サンシャイン世界水族館
TMP
19:30
TMP
TMP

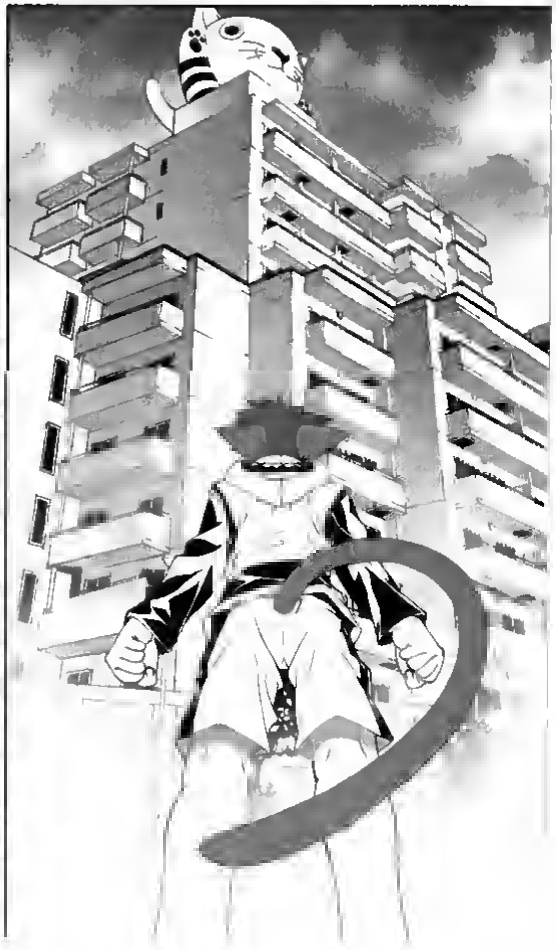
ROOF EXIT THIS
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP

Kokoro-kun kept his promise. Now it's my turn!
Ikebukuro Station

Cyan?
We're going to miss the train's departure time!
Cyan went off somewhere!
TMP
Ko-koro...


HAHH
HAHH
HAHH

Right!!



You guys are never gonna...
WHOOSH
...?! Eh?!
THR-TUNK
Cyan, let's run!
You're one of Siam's minions...

D-Dam-mit!
WHUD
Gahh!!
GANCH
...defeat me any-more!!

Why are you giving it to me?
What's this...This is your collar ...torn through...

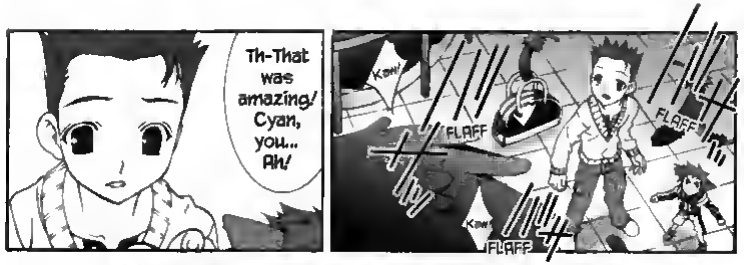
Cyan! Thank goodness! Let's go...

Wh-What?!

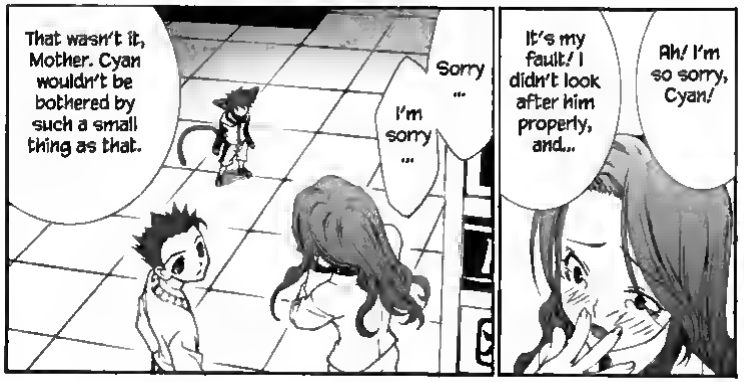
Waaa!!
FLAFF

I'm going to take Siam-sama's place and take you out myself!!

R-Right. Of course he wouldn't. He's a... fine cat.
Right?

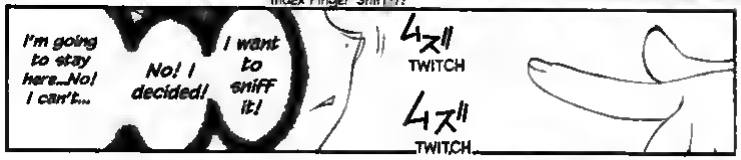

Th-That was amazing! Cyan, you... Ah!
FLAFF
FLAFF
FLAFF

It's from the collar...?
No...
That wound on your neck... Was that from the crows?!

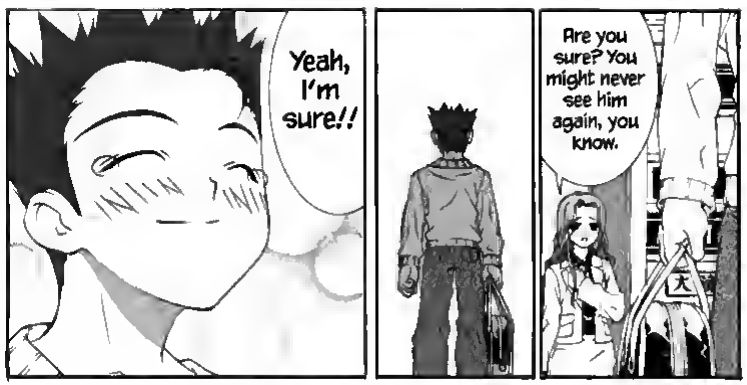

That wasn't it, Mother. Cyan wouldn't be bothered by such a small thing as that.
I'm sorry ...
Sorry ...
It's my fault! I didn't look after him properly, and...
Ah! I'm so sorry, Cyan!

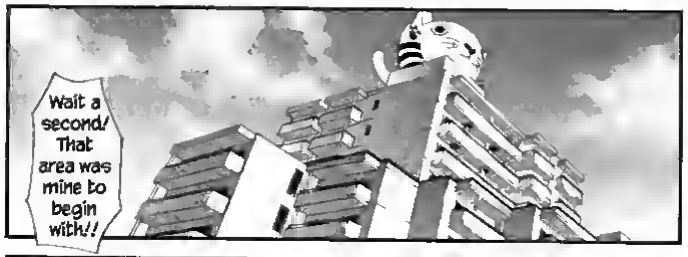
Yeah. And I'll always be right over there. In the place where I have so many memories of Kokoro-kun...
I'll...I'll be coming back to see you again.
STP
Thank you, Kokoro-kun... Thank you!

Index Finger Sniff!!!

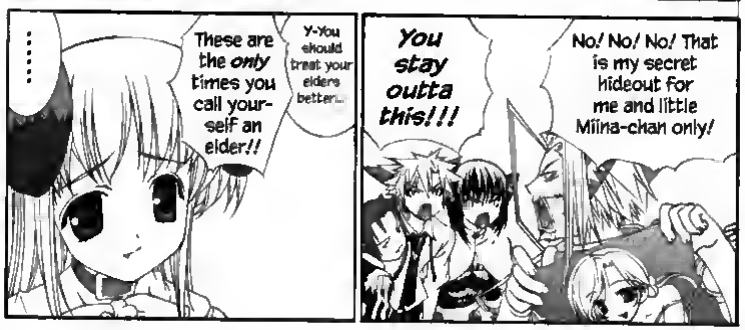


... in Nyan-Man!


Yeah, I'm sure!!
Are you sure? You might never see him again, you know.


Wait a second! That area was mine to begin with!!

I need the space for my research! My research benefits everyone, so it's only natural that I take the space!
GYAAA!
TAK
TAK
No! Once it's been given away, we start from scratch again!
GYAAA!
My locker!!
Now that the kid's gone, it would normally go back to me, right?!


.....
These are the only times you call yourself an elder!!
Y-You should treat your elders better...
You stay outta this!!!
No! No! No! That is my secret hideout for me and little Miina-chan only!

TWIK
Hold it right there!!!

Cat-kun!? You're back?
Cyan-chama!!
Go after him! You can probably still catch him.
Young one, what are you back for?
I-I don't care what anybody says, I'm staying here!
GRMP
Sigh ...!
Tsk! I thought my territory was going to expand a little!

I am...a part of the Free Collars!
And I'm going to become like Wild Cat!!

You guys...
KOFF
Jeez! After you managed to get away from this endless territorial battle.
No kidding! You could have eaten your favorite cat food every day, too!
And your master probably knows some really cute human women!
TEE HEE
Rat?!!
It might not be as grand a dream as you Cat-kun or the other Free Collars, but...But like they say on afternoon TV shows...
Oh, yes. My dream...

But...Is this really okay with you?
She's cute when she's asleep.
Ha ha...
Minky really sleeps soundly.
Although I may be a bother to everybody else.
Yes. This is the best way.
?
KATAK
No!! You aren't a bother!! You could never...

KARARA
I think it'd be great if we could always be here, just like this.
It seems he's the most emotional about it after all.
Ur... Um...

?!
Old man!!
Right now, for me, this is the place where I can be myself.
To me, this is the best place of all!!
Right! Let's go!!
Okay! I don't care where they're coming from!!

Uh...? Mmm?
What is this? Don't we get time to sleep?!
Y-Yes! They're infiltrating our territory from the direction of Ôtsuka!!
BEEEP
BEEEP
Th-The enemy?!!
BEEEP

Just Wonderful!
Ah...
Ah...
It's that kitten from before.
It's the older guy Crow-chama.
Let's play together.
What's wrong, Kitten-chan? Are you lost?
H-He's a very handsome guy!
And...
And...
Oh, Crow-chama... You're so much kinder that I expected! You're good-looking, and wonderful...
Ehaaah!!
I'm going to be eaten by a kid!!
And you look so delicious!!
I'll bet you taste as good as you look!

Free Collars Love Theater ③

By Fuji-Taku-chan

Thank you so very, very much!! (So very very?)

■ Cat ears. Fangs. Nowadays they make me sentimental... This is the final volume of *Free Collars Kingdom*. Cyan has said his good-byes to Kokoro-kun, and now he's probably enjoying himself as he gains more experience in the territorial battles. He's having loads of fun with his friends... Ah! But that's while they're being harassed by other cats. Maybe?

■ Now that I mention it, my style of drawing began to change during these *Free Collars* stories. I was asked to do work using my previous style of drawing, but... for the present, I think I'll draw things this way. So without any further ado...

Takuya Fujimi

Home page address: http://www.geocities.jp/fujima040/
↑ It isn't much of a home page, but... let me know what you think of my work and such.

"Happy Trick"!

It can increase one's strength up to ten times normal, but it has many dangerous side effects, such as hallucinations.
A silvervine-based drug.
That's a good-looking snack!
Ah...
SHHHK
And I'll take it all! ♡
Raauu-ggh!
Gotta take notes on this!
It's dangerous to experiment on cats.
SKRITCH
SKRITCH

Stress Relief

TRANSLATION NOTES

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more an art than a science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

I still can't figure out how these guys got to be such good fighters.
Ah ha ha ha ha! A raccoon, and so he puts clothes out on the rack!

On the rack, page 6

Okay, it's a lame pun. The pun was a little better in Japanese. The Japanese word for raccoon is *araiguma*, which means quite literally "washing bear." So if Coon is doing the washing, since he's part "washing bear," it's only natural.

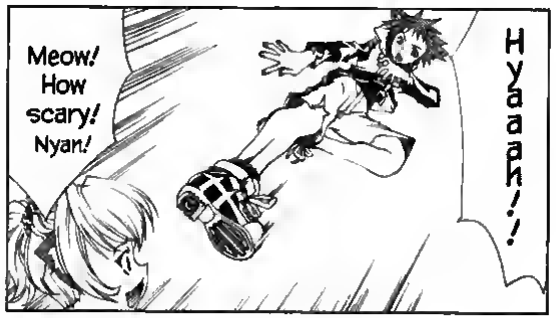
Unscheduled Chapter
Free Collars Love Theater
In the Bath

Since it takes awhile for our clothes to dry, she can't change clothes for some time.
Minky recently broke the shower in the trash room.

I get the feeling that no such thing ever happened to Slam and her group...
Of course, that's special fanservice for our readers!

Extended Garden Sheers, page 22

This is another actual product that is sold on TV complete with "extra gifts" when bought via phone order.



Meow! Nyan!, page 48

Her "meow" was a transcription of "meow" in Japanese letters. Her "nyan" at the end of every sentence was left as in the Japanese. An added word or syllable is used sometimes by certain manga characters to show them as having an accent or odd style of speech. *Nyan*, as noted before in this series, is one of the "meowing" sounds that cats make in Japanese.

...they trip just as if they were humans tripping on illicit drugs.
When we cats are introduced to silvervine or other products that feature Nepetalactone...
Yes.

Silvervine, page 14

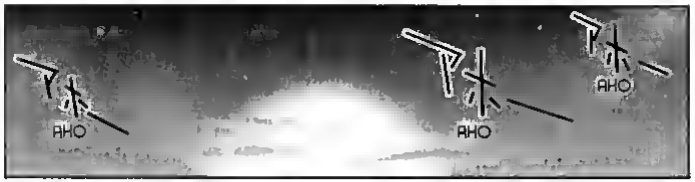
Silvervine is the common name for *Actinidia polygama*, a plant that contains nepetalactone, known as *mata-tabi* in Japanese. This is the Japanese equivalent of catnip, which also features nepetalactone. In reality, not all cats react to nepetalactone in the same way. Kittens younger than three months are repelled by it, and some cats are not affected by it at all. However most adult cats do get "drunk" on the nepetalactone in catnip and silvervine.

Fabreeze, page 22

This isn't a substitution for a Japanese product. The air freshener Febreze is also very popular in Japan, and as attested by the katakana on the bottle, the Japanese version of Febreze is exactly what she used. However, since the dialogue balloon uses a Japanese technique to disguise the brand name, the American version also uses a soundalike brand name.

Ôtsuka, page 194

The town of Ôtsuka is one station east of the Ikebukuro station on the famous Yamanote line that circles Tokyo. So, unlike with Siam who always came from West Ikebukuro, this time the attack is coming from the east.



Aho Aho, page 95

The call of the crow in Japanese, "Aho aho," is also reminiscent of an insult, *aho,* that means "stupid." So it indicates both that the sun is setting, and that our heroes were dumb enough to have gotten themselves into a bad situation.

Puriam's name, page 135

The Japanese name for the *Free Collars Kingdom* character Siam and the Japanese word for a Siamese cat are both transliterated as *shamu.* Siam's brother's name is transliterated as *puramu.* So, since they rhyme in Japanese and since Siam calls her brother *Pu-chan,* the most logical transliteration for Siam's brother's name was Puriam.

THE CLIMACTIC CAT-ACLYSM!

Cyan, a young Abyssinian cat, is combating enemies so that he can go on living in the basement of his old apartment building, the one place his beloved master might think to look for him. But Cyan must also fight to be accepted by the group of misfits who call that basement home! The gorgeous, evil, and slightly wacky Siam, leader of her own army, is determined to seize Cyan's apartment building for herself. Cyan and his friends take the battle to Siam, but are they ready for the temptations and treachery that await them in Siam's lair?

This is the final volume of FREE COLLARS KINGDOM.

Includes special extras after the story!

U.S.A. $10.95 CANADA $13.95

ISBN 978-0-345-49267-8 GRAPHIC NOVEL

51095

EAN

9 780345 492678

RATING OT AGES 16+

DEL REY KODANSHA

www.delreymanga.com

Zooom-Manga
DO NOT SHARE OUTSIDE OF IRC.